UNITED
NATIONS

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Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/1991/133
25 July 1991

Original: ENGLISH

Second regular session of 1991
Geneva, 3-26 July 1991
Agenda item 12

COORDINATION QUESTIONS

Report of the Third (Programme and Coordination) Committee

A. Refugees, displaced persons and returnees

1. The Third (Programme and Coordination) Committee considered the question of refugees, displaced persons and returnees under agenda item 12 (Coordination questions) at its 1st to 5th meetings, from 8 to 11 July 1991. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Notes by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "The coordination of activities related to early warning of possible refugee flows" (A/45/649 and Corr.1) and the comments of the Secretary-General (A/45/649/Add.1) and of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (A/46/134);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General concerning the system-wide review of coordination of assistance to all refugees, displaced persons and returnees (E/1991/109 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1).

2. At the 1st to 5th meetings, the Committee held a general discussion on the question of refugees, displaced persons and returnees in conjunction with items 15, 16 (c), 17 and 18. At the 1st meeting, on 8 July, the Committee heard introductory statements by the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator, the Associate Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the representative of the Joint Inspection Unit.

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3. At the same meeting, statements were made by the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Assistant Executive Director of the World Food Programme and the representative of the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund.

4. At the 2nd meeting, on 9 July, the Committee heard an introductory statement by the representative of the secretariat of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction.

5. Also at the 2nd meeting, the Committee heard an oral report by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Emergency and Relief Operations in the Sudan concerning the implementation of the emergency and relief operations in that country, including Operation Lifeline Sudan. An oral report was also made by the United Nations Special Coordinator for Emergency Relief Operations in Somalia.

6. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Netherlands (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community), Sweden (on behalf of the Nordic countries), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Canada, Somalia and the Bahamas and the observers for the Sudan and Ethiopia. The representative of the World Meteorological Organization also made a statement.

7. At the 3rd meeting, on 10 July, statements were made by the representatives of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Argentina, Yugoslavia, Peru, Chile, Pakistan and Algeria and the observers for Australia and Djibouti.

8. At the same meeting, the representatives of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Health Organization made statements. The observer for the International Organization for Migration made a statement. A statement was also made by the observer for the International Committee of the Red Cross, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Council, category II.

9. At the 4th meeting, on 11 July, statements were made by the representatives of Mexico, China, Brazil, Austria, the United States of America, Japan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Morocco and the observers for Switzerland, Cuba and Egypt.

10. At the 5th meeting, on 11 July, statements were made by the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic and the observers for Yemen and Senegal.

11. Also at the 5th meeting, the Chairman of the Committee summarized the general discussion on items 12, 15, 16 (c), 17 and 18.

12. At the same meeting, the representative of Chile proposed that the Chairman's summary be annexed to the report of the Council submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session.

13. Statements in support of that proposal were made by the representatives of Brazil, Somalia and the Netherlands (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community) and the observer for Ghana (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77).

14. The Committee then decided to recommend to the Council that the text of the Chairman's summary of the general discussion on items 12, 15, 16 (c), 17 and 18 be annexed to the report of the Council submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session (for the text of the decision, see the report of the Committee on item 18 (E/1991/139), para. 22, draft decision I).

B. Coordination questions

15. The Third (Programme and Coordination) Committee considered coordination questions (agenda item 12) at its 6th, 7th and 15th to 18th meetings, on 15 and 16 and from 22 to 24 July 1991. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its thirty-first session (A/46/16) 1/ and a statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with regulation 4.8 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation concerning programme budget implications arising from recommendations contained in the report of the Committee (E/1991/L.28); 2/

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the World Health Organization on the global strategy for the prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) (A/46/171-E/1991/61);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme for International Literacy Year (A/46/281-E/1991/112);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the system-wide medium-term plan for women and development (E/1991/16 and Corr.1);

(e) Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1990 (E/1991/42 and Add.1 and 2);

(f) Report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the Register of Development Activities of the United Nations System (E/1991/44).

16. At the 6th and 7th meetings, the Committee held a general discussion on coordination questions. At the 6th meeting, on 15 July, the Committee heard

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/46/16).

2/ For the final text, see A/46/16/Add.1.

introductory statements by the Chairman of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, the Director of the Programme Planning and Budget Division of the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Finance, the Deputy Director of the Programme for the Prevention and Control of AIDS of the World Health Organization, the representative of the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation, the representative of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, the Director of the Division of International Organizations of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the representative of the Office for Political and General Assembly Affairs and Secretariat Services.

17. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Austria, the Netherlands (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community), the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the United States of America and the observer for Norway (on behalf of the Nordic countries).

18. At the 7th meeting, on 16 July, statements were made by the representatives of Austria, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, France, Cameroon, Brazil, the Bahamas, Mexico, the United States of America and the observer for Uganda. The representative of the World Bank also made a statement.

Prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)

19. At the 15th meeting, on 22 July, the representative of Austria, on behalf of Australia, 3/ Austria, Belgium, 3/ Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, 3/ Finland, France, Germany, Greece, 3/ Hungary, 3/ Ireland, 3/ Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, 3/ Peru, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Zambia, introduced a draft resolution (E/1991/C.3/L.6) entitled "Prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)". Subsequently, Morocco, Trinidad and Tobago and Uganda 3/ joined in sponsoring the draft resolution. In introducing the draft resolution, the representative of Austria revised it by adding, at the end of operative paragraph 5, the following phrase:

> "for the purpose of developing relevant activities to support national programmes for the prevention and control of the pandemic".

20. At the 17th meeting, on 24 July, the Secretary of the Committee read out revisions to the draft resolution that had been agreed upon during informal consultations.

21. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Algeria, Austria and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

3/ In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

22. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, the representative of Austria made a statement and read out further revisions to the draft resolution that had been agreed upon during informal consultations.

23. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see para. 29 below, draft resolution I).

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination

24. At the 16th meeting, on 23 July, the observer for Norway, on behalf of Algeria, Argentina, the Bahamas, Brazil, Norway 3/ and the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, introduced a draft resolution (E/1991/C.3/L.10) entitled "Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination".

25. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, the Secretary of the Committee read out revisions to the draft resolution that had been agreed upon during informal consultations.

26. Also at the 18th meeting, the representative of the Netherlands, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Community, made a statement.

27. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised (see para. 29 below, draft resolution II).

Reports considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with coordination questions

28. At the 18th meeting, on 24 July, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the Council that it take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme for International Literacy Year (A/46/281-E/1991/112) and the report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the Register of Development Activities of the United Nations System (E/1991/44) (see para. 30 below).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRD (PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION) COMMITTEE

29. The Third (Programme and Coordination) Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Prevention and control of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1990/86 of 27 July 1990, General Assembly resolution 45/187 of 21 December 1990, relevant resolutions of the World Health Assembly, as well as relevant resolutions of other organizations of the

United Nations system, the London Declaration on AIDS Prevention, 4/ the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children, adopted by the World Summit for Children on 30 September 1990, 5/ and the deliberations of the Seventh International Conference on AIDS, held at Florence, Italy, in June 1991,

Recalling also the resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the World Health Assembly concerning the need to respect the human rights and dignity of all people affected by the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), including those who live in their immediate environment, in particular their families,

Acknowledging the established leadership of the World Health Organization in mobilizing and coordinating AIDS prevention and control activities, including socio-behavioural and biomedical research,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors, collaborating in the implementation of the global strategy for the prevention and control of AIDS,

Stressing the need to take full advantage of the World Health Organization/United Nations Development Programme Alliance to Combat AIDS and to strengthen its role in facilitating the implementation at the country level of the global strategy for the prevention and control of AIDS,

Aware that AIDS can have serious social and economic consequences, particularly in countries with a high incidence of HIV infection and limited public health services and other developmental resources,

Reaffirming that the struggle against AIDS should be consistent with and divert neither attention nor resources from other national public health priorities and development goals,

Aware that at least 8 million to 10 million HIV infections have occurred in adults and about 1 million children worldwide, on the basis of which the current projection of the World Health Organization for the year 2000 is that there will be a cumulative total of about 40 million HIV infections in men, women and children,

Emphasizing that the prevention and control of HIV infection and AIDS for women and children call for the strengthening and improvement of the primary health care system and for educational and other psychological, social and economic support programmes for women, children and families,

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4/ A/43/341-E/1988/80, annex, appendix I.

5/ A/45/625, annex.

Concerned about the growing spread of HIV infection in existing areas as well as to new areas of the world, such as South-East Asia, which, if unchecked, could lead to a substantial increase over present estimates in the number of HIV infection and AIDS cases by the year 2000,

Concerned that there is a growing gap between the resources required for AIDS prevention and control and the funding available, which is insufficient to meet the needs to combat the pandemic,

1. Takes note of the report of the Director-General of the World Health Organization on the global strategy for the prevention and control of AIDS; 6/

2. Urges Governments to intensify their commitment and efforts for the prevention and control of AIDS within their countries, including mechanisms for multisectoral responses and concomitant plans;

3. Further urges Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify their efforts to mobilize the human, financial and moral resources required to address the multiple effects of the AIDS pandemic;

4. Calls upon organizations of the United Nations system, Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to coordinate their efforts with the World Health Organization in implementing the global strategy for the prevention and control of AIDS;

5. Requests the Secretary-General, in view of the adverse impact of HIV infection and AIDS on the health and economic and social well-being of men, women, children and families, to intensify his efforts, in close collaboration with the Director-General of the World Health Organization and all other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, to mobilize moral, technical and financial resources and to increase and sustain national multisectoral efforts for AIDS prevention and control;

6. Requests the Secretary-General, in the light of the growing evidence that the AIDS pandemic's demographic, health, social, economic and political consequences will have a very substantial impact on all sectors of society and countries, to assess the adequacy of existing and projected programmes of work responding to the pandemic, in close collaboration with the Director-General of the World Health Organization and all other relevant organizations of the United Nations system for the purpose of developing relevant activities to support national programmes for the prevention and control of the pandemic;

7. Invites the General Assembly, at its forty-sixth session to consider the report of the Director-General of the World Health Organization and the response of the United Nations system to the AIDS pandemic and to take an appropriate decision on further action, taking into account the present resolution.

6/ A/46/171-E/1991/61, annex.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its thirty-first session, 7/

Recalling the provisions of Chapters IX and X of the Charter of the United Nations and, in particular, the role of the Economic and Social Council in coordination in the economic and social fields within the United Nations system,

Also recalling General Assembly resolution 45/264 of 13 May 1991 on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields,

Reaffirming the importance of the programming and coordinating functions currently carried out by the Committee for Programme and Coordination as the main subsidiary organ of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly for planning, programming and coordination,

Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its thirty-first session;

I

Programme questions

1. Endorses the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;

2. Endorses the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993; 8/

3. Stresses that the distribution of resources in the programme budget should enable the Organization to fulfil its objectives and mandates, responding effectively to the needs of the international community, particularly in the economic and social fields;

4. Endorses the conclusions of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on how the broad priorities set out in General Assembly resolution 45/253 of 21 December 1990 have been reflected in the proposed programme budget and its recommendations on how such priorities should guide the implementation of the activities proposed, within the context of a continuing search for greater efficiency and effectiveness;

7/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth session, Supplement No. 16 (A/46/16).

8/ Ibid., chap. II, sect. A.

5. Notes with concern that the programmes of work of only a few sections of the proposed programme budget have been reviewed by the relevant intergovernmental bodies, stresses the need for their full participation in the budgetary process as set out in General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and requests the Secretary-General to use, when necessary, ad hoc mechanisms to ensure that this review is made in a timely manner;

6. Endorses the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the progressive extension of statements of programme budget implications to all subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and on the enhancement of their programmatic content, in the context of the implementation of the programme budget and of the use and operation of the contingency fund;

7. Concurs with the views of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the need for improved justification of proposed changes in the staffing table of the Organization;

8. Recognizes the need for further improvement in the methodology and format of the proposed programme budget and endorses the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination thereon;

9. Stresses the importance of all the reports requested by the Committee for Programme and Coordination in paragraphs 96, 117 and 263 of its report, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

II

Coordination questions

1. Endorses the views of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the importance of enhancing coordination through the optimal use of existing mechanisms;

2. Stresses the central role of the Administrative Committee on Coordination in the coordination of activities of the United Nations system at the intersecretariat level and, in this context, the leadership role of the Secretary-General as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Coordination;

3. Welcomes the annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1990, 9/ and, in particular, the report on programmes and resources of the United Nations system; 10/

4. Endorses the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and

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9/ E/1991/42 and Add.1 and 2.

10/ E/1991/42/Add.1.

Coordination and the Administrative Committee on Coordination, especially concerning the need for a genuine dialogue at a high level between member States and executive heads; 11/

5. Notes that the topic chosen for the twenty-sixth series of Joint Meetings of the two Committees, to be held in New York on 22 and 23 October 1991, is the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade by the United Nations system, to be considered in the light of the implementation of the provisions of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, adopted by the General Assembly at its eighteenth special session; 12/

6. Recalls that the twenty-sixth series of Joint Meetings is to make recommendations to the Council, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 45/264, on themes to be selected at the organizational session of the Council for discussion at its coordination segment;

7. Also recalls that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/264, the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Joint Meetings of the two Committees are to make recommendations to the Council, for consideration at its coordination segment, on the system-wide assessment of the status of coordination;

8. Requests the Committee on Programme and Coordination, in the light of the above, and also bearing in mind the increased workload of the Committee ensuing from the implementation of General Assembly resolution 41/213 and the projected availability of documentation, to review its programme of work and make suggestions on the timing and duration of its sessions, taking into account the review of the subsidiary machinery in the economic, social and related fields, with the objective of possible restructuring and revitalization, to be conducted during the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly, in accordance with Assembly resolution 45/264;

9. Approves the agenda of the Committee for Programme and Coordination for its thirty-second session, as set out in paragraph 478 of its report.

30. The Third (Programme and Coordination) Committee recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

11/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth session, Supplement No. 16 (A/46/16), paras. 458 and 459.

12/ General Assembly resolution S-/8/3, annex.

Reports considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with coordination questions

The Economic and Social Council, takes note of the following reports:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme for International Literacy Year; 13/

(b) Report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the Register of Development Activities of the United Nations System. 14/

13/ A/46/281-E/1991/112.

14/ E/1991/44.